

# ecoNews — Wire —

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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For immediate release

## **1. Construction statement and manure plan needed to build or modify animal confinements**

### **CONSTRUCTION STATEMENT AND MANURE PLAN NEEDED TO BUILD OR MODIFY ANIMAL CONFINEMENTS**

DES MOINES — Starting March 1, 2003, confinement site producers who plan to build, expand or modify must file a construction design statement with the DNR at least 30 days before starting construction.

Any facilities that will have more than 500 animal units after construction and will use formed manure storage (concrete or steel) are required to file the construction design statements, including existing facilities with expansions. Such facilities include 1,250 finishing hogs, 5,000 nursery pigs, 500 beef cattle or about 357 mature dairy cattle.

“There are various interpretations of when the manure management plan must be filed, so I would encourage anyone with questions to contact the DNR,” said Gene Tinker, coordinator of DNR animal feeding operations.

Producers can call 515-281-8941 for a DNR engineer or the DNR regional field office phone number.

The design statements have four components:

- A description of the project,
- Certification that drainage tile requirements will be met,
- A manure management plan and applicable fees, and
- Certification that at least minimum concrete standards will be met.

“Larger facilities and those that are using earthen basins or unformed manure storage must also apply for a construction permit and need to submit the permit application at least 90 days before building,” said Sara Smith, a DNR environmental engineer.

A certificate from a professional engineer that construction will meet Iowa requirements can be substituted for the construction design statement.

The design statements and construction permit applications are available on the DNR website under animal feeding operations at [www.IowaDNR.com](http://www.IowaDNR.com).

Small confinements that will have 500 animal units or less and will use formed storage are exempt from filing a construction design statement before building.

**For press inquiries, contact Sara Smith at (515) 242-5521 or Karen Grimes at (515) 281-5135, e-mail [karen.grimes@dnr.state.ia.us](mailto:karen.grimes@dnr.state.ia.us).**